

warming, and I think that is why many Americans are dismissing their chances of speaking to the needs of this Nation. This is a critically important issue. If this Republican minority will not allow us to reach it, I predict the American voters will have the last words. We will reach this issue. They will demand that we reach this issue.

All of the fear being spread here about change in America is indicative of the problem the Republicans have today. They are afraid of change. Anything that will change things scares them. They don't think America is resilient enough and powerful enough to accept change. They are wrong.

Our Nation desperately wants change, starting in Washington, and rippling across America, to deal with the issues that face us—first and foremost, to bring peace to our Nation, bring our troops home, stabilize and strengthen our economy, and deal with critical issues, such as global warming.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. DURBIN. Yes, I am happy to.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I just ask the distinguished assistant majority leader if he and the Democratic majority would agree to an amendment designed to help bring down the price of gasoline at the pump for the American consumer, and whether they would agree to allow us to file that amendment, debate that amendment on this bill, and then have an up-or-down vote on the Senate floor?

Mr. DURBIN. My response is that we are on another bill now, while we are waiting for cloture to ripen on the global warming bill. It is our intention to move directly into the debate that you have just indicated. We have to deal with energy pricing in America. If the Republican side is going to offer a good-faith policy amendment to deal with this issue, I am sure that will be appropriate.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I take it from the answer of the assistant majority leader that his answer is no.

Mr. DURBIN. The answer is yes.

Mr. CORNYN. I take it that they would not allow us to offer an amendment on this bill that would be designed to bring down the price of gasoline at the pump by opening America's natural resources to development and production.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, time and time again we are told by the Republican side, if we could just drill for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, all of our prayers would be answered and gasoline would be \$1.50 a gallon, people would stop complaining, and the American economy would be back on its feet. It turns out this idea of drilling for oil in ANWR is not the answer to our prayers. For many of us, it is somewhat blasphemous to think we would take a section of land that was set aside by President Eisenhower as a wildlife refuge and say that we are so desperate in America for oil that we are going to change it forever.

It strikes me that we have to look at the reality. Of all the oil reserves in the world, the United States has access in our boundaries, near our shores, to 3 percent of all the oil in the world. We consume 25 percent of the oil in the world. The Republicans believe we can drill our way out—drill in the Great Lakes, drill in the ANWR—and it will all be just fine. We know better. We have to take an honest look at this and realize that drilling in those places will not answer the need.

#### REMEMBERING SENATOR THOMAS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I know my colleagues are waiting. I liked Craig Thomas. We served in the House together and in the Senate. When they had his funeral service, I made a point of joining many of my colleagues to make the trip out to his beloved Wyoming to meet his neighbors and supporters and friends and family. It was a wonderful, beautiful service. He was such a quiet and strong man. He and I disagreed on lots of issues, but I respected him so much. I think his real strength was shown in his last battle with leukemia and cancer. Craig kept a smile on his face, despite some very difficult days. His wife Susan at his side out in Wyoming was a reminder that we are really a Senate family.

We can debate issues back and forth, as we just did, but at the end of the day, I think he was a great Senator who served his State well, and it was an honor that I could count him as a friend.

I yield the floor.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to a period of morning business for up to 2 hours, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans in control of the first 30 minutes and the majority in control of the second 30 minutes.

The Senator from Wyoming is recognized.

#### REMEMBERING SENATOR CRAIG THOMAS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, 1 year ago yesterday, the State of Wyoming and our Nation lost one of the great cowboys ever to ride this land. On June 4, 2007, Senator Craig Thomas, my senior Senator, my mentor, and most important of all, my friend, lost his battle with leukemia. I still expect to see him come in that door every time we vote

and go over to the candy desk and get a piece of candy and come down to the well to visit with me.

I can tell you right now, I feel him over my shoulder saying: You cannot let the Senator from Illinois get away with what he just said. That is what Craig would do. He used to do it from that desk right over there.

Craig would have said that honesty, truth, and promises are virtues of the West. When you promise three circuit court judges, you deliver them. They did not deliver. That is why, yesterday, we weren't able to do the tributes that we are doing today.

When it comes to the global warming issue, he would have said "gotcha" politics doesn't have a place here. But that is what they are doing on issue after issue.

How do you tell it is "gotcha" politics? If it didn't go to committee, it is "gotcha" politics. Oh, yes, they would argue that global warming went to committee. Well, a bill went to committee, but that is not the bill that we have shifted to. We have shifted to one that didn't go to committee. It is full of little landmines. That is not the way we used to do things around here. I know my friend, Craig, would have pointed that out. Both the cowboy and the marine in Craig Thomas would have been forced to point that out—to be honest, get the judges up; be honest, do the bills that go through the committee that everybody has a chance to amend.

As Craig comes through the door, which he does in my mind all the time, I symbolically lift my hat to him, to celebrate the life of a great Senator.

He was raised in Wapiti, WY. That is between Cody and Yellowstone Park. The school he went to now has about an 8-foot fence to keep grizzly bears out. Craig was so tough, they didn't need that fence when he went to school there. He was executive director of the Wyoming Farm Bureau, executive director of the Wyoming Rural Electric Association, he was a small businessman, a State legislator, a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and a Senator. He was a marine at heart, but he was a cowboy in his soul. He was quiet. He was focused. He was tough. He was a staunch fiscal conservative. His life became a portrait of the American West. He preferred to see the world from the saddle of a horse and from under the brim of his cowboy hat, but he sacrificed much to serve us here.

He was proud of Wyoming and our country, and we in Wyoming were proud to be represented by him. He encouraged vision, Mr. President, and, as you can tell, he still challenges me and, I think, you. The cowboy and marine in Craig made him a fierce fighter on behalf of Wyoming, and he approached his cancer no differently.

I will never forget when I learned about my friend's passing. I was overcome with shock and heartbreak, but I also felt a sense of serenity, knowing that Craig was at peace.